

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03  
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAJ-01  
/059 W

-----191202 112437 /11

R 191114Z FEB 77  
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9923  
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY ROME  
USMISSION NATO  
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE  
AMEMBASSY BONN

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 05168

E.O. 11652 GDS  
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, FR, US, SHUM  
SUBJECT: BREZHNEV TO VISIT PARIS BEFORE JULY

1. SUMMARY. GISCARD IS BEING REWARDED FOR SILENCE ON SOVIET DISSIDENCE BY THE PROMISE OF A BREZHNEV VISIT BEFORE JULY. PUBLIC PRESSURE FOR CRITICISM IS BUILDING UP, HOWEVER, AND WE WONDER IF GISCARD WILL BE ABLE TO RESIST. END SUMMARY

2. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED. SOVIET AMBASSADOR TCHEVRON-ENKO CALLED ON PRESIDENT GISCARD D'ESTAING FEB. 18 AFTER CONVERSATION, PRESIDENCY ANNOUNCED THAT BREZHNEV HAD AGREED TO VISIT PARIS "BEFORE JULY, 1977." END UNCLASSIFIED.

3. BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL: UNTIL SOVIET AMBASSADOR'S RETURN FROM MOSCOW TO BRING GOOD NEWS TO GISCARD, SOVIETS HAD BEEN VERY RELUCTANT TO AGREE TO A DATE  
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FOR BREZHNEV'S VISIT. AS EMBASSY HAS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED, SOVIETS DID NOT FEEL GISCARD'S FOREIGN POLICY HAD BEEN HELPFUL TO THEM. GISCARD HAS BEEN ESPECIALLY SUSPECT AS A SECRET ATLANTICIST. HOWEVER, SUBJECT TO EMBASSY MOSCOW'S ANALYSIS WE HAVE THE FEELING HERE THAT THE GOF'S SCRUPULOUS REFUSAL TO CRITICIZE SOVIETS ABOUT INDIVIDUAL DISSIDENTS,

IN CONTRAST TO THE USG AND OTHER WESTERN GOVERNMENTS,  
MAKES GISCARD A LOT MORE ATTRACTIVE TO SOVIET  
LEADERSHIP NOW THAN HE WAS SIX MONTHS AGO.

4. SOVIETS ARE CLEARLY NOT OBLIVIOUS TO FACT THAT  
GOF IS UNDER INCREASING PRESSURE TO SPEAK OUT IN  
FAVOR OF SOVIET DISSIDENTS. MEDIA ARE REPORTING  
HEAVILY FROM EASTERN EUROPE ON DISSIDENT PROBLEMS, AND  
EDITORIALS ARE BEGINNING TO CONTRAST GOF SILENCE WITH  
THE NEW POLICY IN WASHINGTON. QUESTIONED ABOUT THIS  
PROBLEM DURING PRESS LUNCHEON FEBRUARY 17, PRIME  
MINISTER BARRE SAID THAT GOF POLICY EMPHASIZES  
NON-INTERFERENCE IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF OTHER  
COUNTRIES, WITH A DEMAND FOR RECIPROCITY TOWARDS  
FRANCE. SECONDLY, THE GOF WANTS THE HELSINKI ACCORDS  
TO BE FULLY IMPLEMENTED.

5. EMBOFF QUESTIONED FOREIGN MINISTRY EUROPEAN  
DIRECTOR ANDREANI ABOUT THIS ISSUE. ANDREANI SAID THAT  
GOF FEELS UNDER CONSIDERABLE PRESSURE TO EMULATE THE  
USG ABOUT SOVIET DISSIDENCE. APART FROM A FEW  
NUANCES IN OFFICIAL STATEMENTS, HOWEVER, GOF INTENDS  
TO AVOID ANY COMMENTS THAT COULD BE IDENTIFIED AS  
INTERFERENCE IN SOVIET POLITICS. ANDREANI SAID IT  
IS IMPORTANT FOR EVERYONE TO KNOW THAT WHILE GOF  
ENCOURAGES ADHERENCE TO THE HELSINKI ACCORDS, IT  
IS NOT THE GOF'S VIEW THAT THE HELSINKI ACCORDS WERE  
WRITTEN TO CHANGE THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT'S INTERNAL  
COMPORTMENT.

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6. COMMENT: IT WILL BE INTERESTING TO SEE IF GOF  
CAN RESIST PUBLIC PRESSURE TO CRITICIZE  
SOVIETS UNTIL BREZHNEV'S VISIT. THIS PRESSURE COMES  
FROM BOTH LEFT AND TO A MUCH LESSER EXTENT  
RIGHT SIDES OF POLITICAL SPECTRUM. IN FACT, IRONY OF  
SITUATION IS THAT MOST OUTSPOKEN CRITICISM OF  
SOVIET UNION COMES FROM FRENCH COMMUNIST PARTY, WITH  
SOCIALISTS A POOR SECOND, AND GOVERNMENT AND  
MAJORITY PARTIES REMAINING VIRTUALLY SILENT. IN  
OUR VIEW, THIS IS AN UNNATURAL SITUATION THAT  
CANNOT CONTINUE FOR TOO LONG, BREZHNEV VISIT OR NO  
BREZHNEV VISIT.

RUSH

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** HEAD OF GOVERNMENT VISITS, PARTY LEADERS  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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